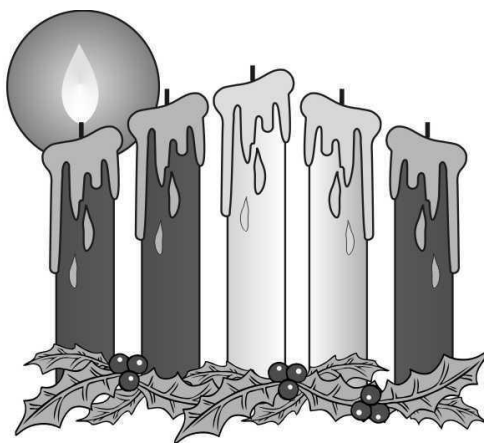




FOR IT IS BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED,
THROUGH FAITH—AND THIS NOT FROM
YOURSELVES, IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD.
EPH 2:8-9

November 29th, 2015

First Sunday of Advent



Help Is on the Way

CROSS OF GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH & LEARNING CENTER

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CHURCH: 225-752-5503

PASTOR STEVEN HAHM

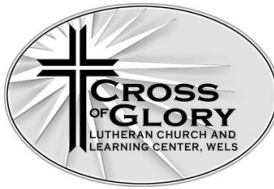
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Welcome! We are glad you are here with us today. Our service today follows an order of worship which places the spotlight on God's Word and its central message of peace through Jesus. You can follow the outline of the service in this worship folder. The hymn numbers refer to the red hymnal: Christian Worship (CW) or the blue hymnal: Christian Worship Supplement (CWS).

Restrooms: The women's and men's restrooms are located in the Gathering Room (lobby) of the church. There are additional restrooms located in the Fellowship Hall.

Cry Room: We do not mind a fussy child or an instructing parent. But for parents who would like a quiet place to be with their child, we have a cry room with a one-way window into the sanctuary. The entrance is located in the Gathering Room. The worship audio can be heard in this room.

Prayer Requests: If you have a special prayer you would like included in today's Prayer of the Church, please fill out the prayer request form on the small table in the Gathering Room.

Holy Communion: We offer classes (Basic Bible Christianity) for those desiring to take the sacrament. If you are a newcomer, please take these classes before communing or speak with our pastor.



ORDER OF SERVICE: ADVENT WORD & SACRAMENT

ADVENT GATHERING RITE

The congregation sings the refrain continuously. While the congregation repeats the refrain, the cantor sings the verses.



- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. God fulfills the promise, so come. | 2. For a shoot from David will come. |
| 3. Overflowing with love, we come. | 4. May God strengthen our hearts, and come. |
| 5. For the Son of Man will come. | 6. Oh be watchful, pray always, and come. |

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son (+), and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: From the Christ who was, who is, and who is to come, grace, light and peace be with you all.

C: And also with you.

M: My friends, in this Advent season, let us be mindful of our need for salvation and prepare the way of the Lord with willing hearts. Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

C: Almighty and Merciful Father, I confess to you that I have not always loved you with all my heart. I have pursued my ways instead of your ways. In what I have done, and what I have left undone, I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. I am truly sorry for my sins. I repent of them and beg for your mercy, O Lord.

The congregation sings the refrain while the minister sings:

1. Lord have mercy upon us and come.
2. Christ have mercy upon us and come.
3. Lord have mercy upon us and come.

M: The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, he forgives us our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son (+), and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

The congregation sings the refrain again.

M: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 33:14-16

"'The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will fulfill the gracious promise I made to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah.'¹⁵ "'In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land.'¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness.'

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 25



M: To you, O LORD, I lift 'up my soul; *
C: in you I trust, 'O my God.

M: Remember, O LORD, your great mer'cy and love, *
C: for they are 'from of old.

M: Remember not the sins of my youth and my re'bellious ways; *
C: according to your love remember me, for you are 'good, O LORD.

Refrain

M: Turn to me and be gra'cious to me, *
C: for I am lonely and a'fflicted.

M: Look upon my affliction and 'my distress *
C: and take away 'all my sins.

M: Guard my life and 'rescue me, *
C: for I take re'fuge in you.

C: Glory be to the Father and 'to the Son *
and to the Holy 'Spirit,
as it was in the be'ginning, *
is now, and will be forever. 'Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you?¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you.¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

M: We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus, who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

C: **We remember Jesus, who will come at the end of time. None of us know what day that will be.**

M: We hear his call to watch.

C: **We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.**

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: **Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

"There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea.²⁶ Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken.²⁷ At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.²⁸ When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."²⁹ He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees.³⁰ When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near.³¹ Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.³² "I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened.³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.³⁴ "Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap.³⁵ For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth.³⁶ Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY **Savior of the Nations, Come (CW #2)**

SERMON: Luke 21:25-36 - "Help Is on the Way"

THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

THE ANNUNCIATION AND MAGNIFICAT

Cantors: An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Rejoice! O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High." And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will."

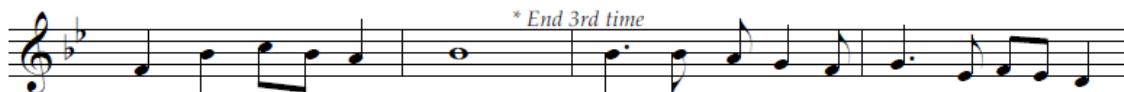
The congregation immediately joins to sing the Magnificat.



1. & 3. My _____ soul pro-claims your great ness, O God, and my
2. You have cast the might y down from their thrones, and up



spir it re joic es in you, You have looked with love on your ser vant-here, and
lift ed the hum ble of heart. You have filled the hun gry with won drous things and



blessed me all my life through. Great and might y are you, O Ho ly One,
left the weal thy no part. Great and might y are you, O Ho ly One,



strong is your kind ness ev er more. How you fa vor the
strong is your jus tice, strong your love. As you promised to



weak _____ and low ly one, hum bling the proud of heart.
Sa rah _____ and A bra ham, kind ness for ev er more.

OFFERING

The members of Cross of Glory are happy to support its ministry with their financial gifts. If you are visiting us today, do not feel obligated to give an offering.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M:** Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.
- C:** **We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.**

M: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

C: **Move us to take to heart the words of John: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.”**

M: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

C: **Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.**

M: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

C: **Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.**

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

C: **Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his wondrous birth became our Brother, taking on human flesh to live in righteousness before God and to become obedient even to death on a cross. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*SANCTUS*)



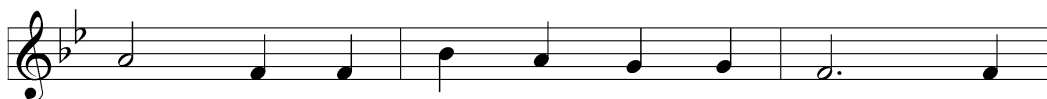
1 O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How tru - ly blest is



might, Your glo - ry, earth and heav - en In
he Who in God's name is com - ing To



count - less ways re - cite. Ho - san - na! Come and
set his peo - ple free! He comes to bring sal -



save us, Lord God of hosts on high, And
va - tion And with his blood out - poured, De -



in your grace and mer - cy Re - ceive our fer - vent cry.
liv - er us from bond - age—Ho - san - na, might - y Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power. Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be don on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

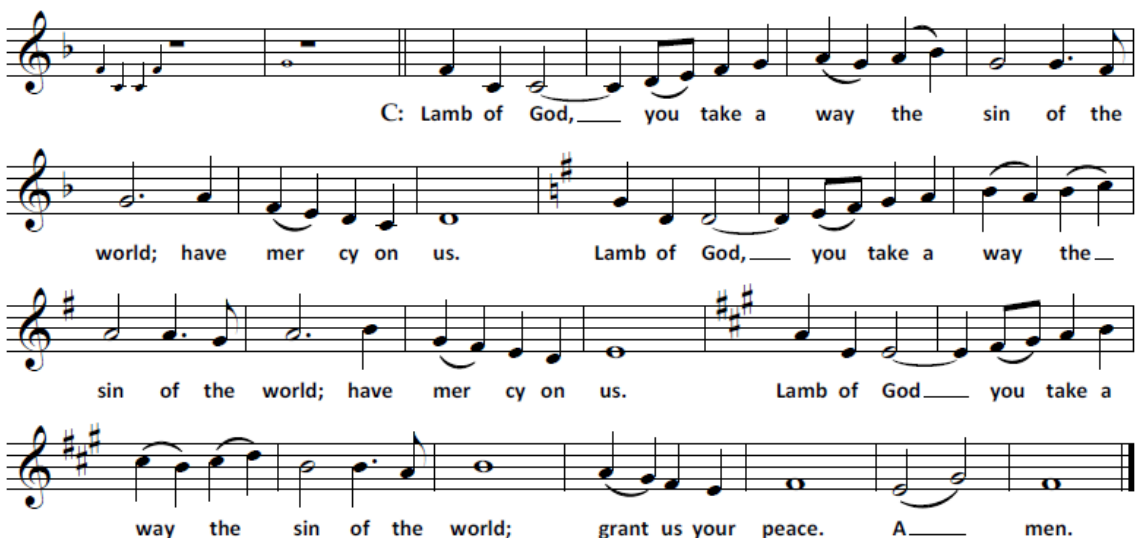
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.



C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION (Hymn #316: O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee)

CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN.....“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” (# 7)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEASURE OF LOVE

Last Sunday’s Attendance: Worship – 35; Communion - 25.
Offerings to the Lord: General Fund - \$1026.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Wednesday (12/2):	6:30 p.m.	Advent Evening Prayer Service
Friday (12/4):	6:30 p.m.	Christmas Decorating
Sunday (12/6):	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
	10:30 a.m.	Worship with Communion
	11:30 a.m.	Choir Practice